

Message Text

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17

ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CU-04 USIA-15 /036 W

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R 231657Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON 8416

UNCLAS RABAT 2244

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC MO

SUBJECT: DHEW:OE:DIE FY76 DOCTORAL DISSERTATION RESEARCH ABROAD
PROGRAM.

REF: STATE 092534

1. IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THERE WOULD BE NO MOROCCAN OBJECTION TO URBAN EVOLUTION STUDY PROPOSED BY MUHAMMAD FARAH ON TRANSFORMATION OF TANGIER 1830-1976. HOWEVER, INsofar AS SUCCESS DEPENDS ON QTE FREQUENT TRIPS RABAT CONSULT NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND LIBRARY MOHAMMED V UNIVERSITY UNQTE EMBASSY OFFERS TWO OBSERVATIONS. FIRST, ACCESS TO NATIONAL ARCHIVES IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT. ONLY INSTANCE EMBASSY AWARE OF WHERE AMERICAN ALLOWED IN WAS FORMER PCV AND TRAINED ARCHIVIST WHO GAINED LIMITED ACCESS OF BRIEF DURATION SOME THREE YEARS AGO ON PROJECT TO HELP IMPROVE ARCHIVES, NOT USE THEM FOR RESEARCH. SECOND, UNIVERSITY LIBRARY HOLDS LITTLE RELEVANT MATERIAL, ACCORDING TO AVAILABLE INFORMATION.
 2. IN ANY CASE, NEITHER FARAH NOR ANY OTHER RESEARCHER SHOULD PLAN TO COME TO MOROCCO UNTIL AFTER RPT AFTER ALL PERMISSIONS OBTAINED. (ONE AMERICAN SCHOLAR IS STILL IN RABAT COOLING HIS HEELS AFTER HEARLY FOUR MONTHS AWAITING FINAL MINISTRY OF INTERIOR PERMISSION.)
 3. WITH REGARD TO COMBS-SCHOLLING PROPOSAL: REFTEL OMITTS REFERENCE TO LANGUAGE ABILITY. FLUENT ARABIC (PREFERABLY MOROCCAN) AND IDEALLY SOME BERBER WOULD BE ESSENTIAL SINCE INCIDENCE FRENCH LANGUAGE AMONG HER PRESUMED RESPONDENTS IN KHEMISSSET OR SEFROU IS PROBABLY MINIMAL. MORE SERIOUS PROBLEM HOWEVER IS PRESENTED BY PROJECT DESCRIPTION, WHICH IS COUCHED IN SUCH
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ABSTRUSE SOCIAL SCIENCE JARGON AS TO MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR

EMBASSY TO ASSESS POTENTIAL POLITICAL SENSITIVITY AND DOUBTFUL THAT
APPROPRIATE GOM AUTHORITIES COULD UNDERSTAND SUBJECT EVEN IF
EMBASSY FELT QUALIFIED TO TRANSLATE IT.
4. REQUEST PROPOSAL BE RESUBMITTED IN SIMPLER LANGUAGE WHICH
EMBASSY CAN REVIEW AND COMMUNICATE TO GOM.ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976RABAT02244
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760156-0180
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760429/aaaaayda.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION HEW
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 92534
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 AUG 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 AUG 2004 by cookms>; APPROVED <16 DEC 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DHEW:OE:DIE FY76 DOCTORAL DISSERTATION RESEARCH ABROAD PROGRAM.
TAGS: OEXC, MO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006